

**MINUTES
of the
THIRD MEETING
of the
TOBACCO SETTLEMENT REVENUE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**September 18, 2015
Barbara Hubbard Room, New Mexico State University
Las Cruces**

The third meeting of the Tobacco Settlement Revenue Oversight Committee (TSROC) was called to order by Representative John L. Zimmerman, co-chair, on September 18, 2015 at 9:51 a.m. in the Barbara Hubbard Room of New Mexico State University (NMSU) in Las Cruces.

Present

Sen. Cisco McSorley, Co-Chair
Rep. John L. Zimmerman, Co-Chair
Rep. Gail Chasey
Sen. John Arthur Smith

Absent

Sen. John C. Ryan
Rep. Monica Youngblood

Advisory Members

Sen. Linda M. Lopez

Sen. Mary Kay Papen
Rep. Patricio Ruiloba
Rep. Don L. Tripp
Rep. Jim R. Trujillo

Staff

Celia Ludi, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Douglas Carver, Staff Attorney, LCS
Nancy Martinez, Intern, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file.

Friday, September 18

Welcome and Introductions

Representative Zimmerman welcomed those in attendance and conducted introductions.

Welcoming Remarks by Chancellor Carruthers

Garrey Carruthers, chancellor, NMSU, welcomed the committee to the "Yale of the yuccas". He discussed three projects under way at NMSU: (1) the Senator Pete Domenici Building; (2) the project to turn two dormitories into an undergraduate learning center; and (3) the construction of a kinesiology building. He also stated that the university will be seeking approval for a general obligation bond to construct a new building for the Department of Art. Dr. Carruthers noted that NMSU is setting an enrollment cap of 18,000 students and has close to 16,000 students now, but the demographics are not favorable, and the university's graduation rate is not improving. Thus, there is no need to build more capacity. He noted that the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine has more than 3,000 applicants for 162 places. The program is due to begin in August 2016; the building for the program is to be completed in July 2016. He added that there is a 6.69 percent increase in freshman enrollment but an overall school population decline of 2.4 percent. There are approximately 25,000 to 26,000 students in the two-year and four-year programs.

Members of the committee asked questions concerning the reaccreditation of the nursing program, the funding formula for higher education and other funding issues for higher education in the state.

Integrated Health Care and Delivery of Health Care Services in Rural New Mexico

Charles Alfero, executive director of the Southwest Center for Health Innovation, discussed the delivery of health care services in rural New Mexico, working through a PowerPoint presentation provided to the committee. Mr. Alfero began his presentation by noting that rural America does not have enough of an advocacy voice in the health care discussion in the nation. He discussed the importance of integrating services at the primary care level, with the four core services of medical health, dental health, behavioral health and family services. He noted that in the United States, the trend is to spend a great amount of money on a few people versus a more public model of spending fewer dollars on more people. Medical training focuses on disease and illness, when most of the issues have a social basis. The four principal areas of care are prevention, diagnosis, treatment and management of illness; the system pays well for diagnosis and treatment but poorly for prevention and management. Mr. Alfero noted that he would like to see a more level playing field among the four principal areas. Most of the money in the health care system goes toward sub-specialty care, with five percent of people using 50 percent of the dollars and 20 percent of people using 80 percent of the dollars. A different focus would have a greater impact on health outcomes. Mr. Alfero advocated for a more comprehensive approach to community health and discussed problems surrounding the lack of a payment system model for community health workers. In the United States, the only way to get paid is through face-to-face visits, but attention to a patient outside of the exam room is beneficial for prevention of health care problems. He noted that in 1965, 80 percent of physicians in the country were trained in primary care, but in 2015, that number dropped to 10 percent to 15 percent, resulting in a shortage of primary care physicians.

Mr. Alfero then discussed various aspects of the Forward New Mexico Pathways model, which is a program beginning at young ages and continuing through college to encourage people to enter the health care professions. He also discussed the related work of the New Mexico Primary Care Training Consortium, which is focusing on residency program development, quality improvement and recruitment.

Members of the committee discussed and asked questions concerning residency hubs, tobacco cessation and prevention efforts, home visits, issues concerning the lack of pharmacies in rural parts of the state and health care collaborations across the state.

Tobacco Use Trends and Impact on Public Health Costs

Joe Tomaka, associate dean, College of Health and Social Services (HSS), and interim head of public health sciences, NMSU, discussed tobacco-use trends and their impact on public health costs, working through a PowerPoint presentation provided to the committee. He began by noting that smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States, and he discussed smoking's various adverse health impacts. After giving an overview of the underlying data sources for his discussion of tobacco-use trends in New Mexico, Dr. Tomaka noted that tobacco-use trends in adults have held fairly steady in the state in recent years and have tracked use trends nationally. Men have higher smoking rates than women in the state, while the rates for Hispanics and non-Hispanic whites show some variability but are close. Tobacco use trends by income level show that, in general, there are higher use rates the lower one's income. The geographic distribution of smoking prevalence shows some evidence of clustering. Dr. Tomaka discussed disparities in tobacco use rates among various groups, noting that the lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered population has the highest usage rates.

Dr. Tomaka continued with an overview of youth tobacco use, noting first that there has been a steady decline in youth use. In 2013, for the first time, youth usage rates in New Mexico dropped below the national average, and a drop in use by girls that began in 2009 has now been nearly matched among boys. Declines have converged for Hispanic and non-Hispanic white youth, and most types of tobacco use, aside from spit tobacco, have declined. Dr. Tomaka then discussed additional components of evidence indicating the progress toward cessation of tobacco use among youth.

Dr. Tomaka then discussed the public health costs of tobacco use, noting the difficulties in estimating these costs. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, smoking-related illnesses cost more than \$300 billion a year. In New Mexico, smoking accounts for well over 2,000 deaths per year, and approximately 42,000 people in the state have at least one serious illness that is attributable to smoking. The health care cost impacts to New Mexico range from \$844 million to \$976 million a year, with other significant economic impacts, including impacts on costs to private employers and to employee health plans. He added that increases in cigarette prices lead to significant reductions in smoking, the single most effective way to reduce smoking. Cigarette price increases are likely the reason behind the drop in youth smoking. Dr. Tomaka concluded by discussing the American Lung Association grade for the

state in its tobacco-use cessation efforts, noting that New Mexico received an F for tobacco-use prevention, a B for smoke-free air, a D for tobacco taxes and a C for access to cessation services. While these scores are low, they are, in general, better than some of New Mexico's neighbors, especially Texas.

Members of the committee asked questions about and discussed the data source behind the numbers that Dr. Tomaka presented, the impact of price increases for tobacco products, geographic distribution numbers and the effectiveness of increasing the age at which one can purchase tobacco.

Tobacco-Use Prevention and Cessation Accomplishments

Javier Garcia, tobacco prevention specialist, Families and Youth, Inc., and Jewelie Smith, tobacco prevention consultant, Families and Youth, Inc., discussed the accomplishments of their tobacco-use cessation efforts. They gave overviews of their public awareness campaigns, particularly those focused on Spanish-speaking populations and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer or questioning and intersex population. They discussed their collaboration with NMSU's Stonewall Coalition, the Sexual Gender Diversity Resource Center at NMSU and the Mayfield High School Gay-Straight Alliance and the provision of mentoring for students through these programs. They also discussed their work providing increased access to tobacco-use cessation services for people experiencing poverty and for Spanish-speaking populations, as well as their education efforts regarding issues of secondhand smoke in those populations.

Members of the committee discussed and asked questions concerning the budget for these programs, including the reasons why the Department of Health (DOH) ceased funding their efforts this year. The principal reason given by the department was a change in how the department was going to grant funding. Funding was only going to be provided to organizations with a statewide reach, and as the Families and Youth, Inc., programs are regionally focused, operating in nine counties, they no longer qualify. Benjamin Jacquez, program manager, Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program, DOH, who was in attendance at the meeting, was asked by members about the cessation of funding. A member requested that the department work with the staff of the Legislative Finance Committee to provide a better explanation.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July meeting of the TSROC were approved with no objections.

Update on the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine

Justin McHorse, assistant dean for multicultural affairs, marketing and communications, NMSU, gave the committee an update on the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine, working through a PowerPoint presentation provided to the committee. He noted that the inaugural osteopathic medicine class in August 2016 will have 162 students and 38 full-time faculty members. He discussed the clinical hubs associated with the program, which include Las Cruces, Albuquerque and El Paso. He added that the university is proud to be bringing more preceptors and residents to the state. Mr. McHorse discussed the locations of new residencies and noted that

more than 600 new positions are anticipated by 2020. Mr. McHorse stressed the importance of role models in pipeline programs in the state, particularly from underserved communities, and discussed the wish to have culturally informed, targeted recruitment to establish a culturally diverse, supportive and inclusive environment from the outset. He also discussed how regional American Indian and Hispanic cultural ways of healing body, mind and spirit most appropriately align with the philosophy of osteopathy. He reviewed the current and projected economic impacts of the college, including \$87.3 million from 2014 through 2016, 390 new jobs and \$77.7 million a year after 2016. Mr. McHorse concluded by requesting the legislature to consider expanding the primary care physician student loan for service program to include all medical schools in the state.

Members of the committee discussed and asked questions concerning the private ownership of the facility and accreditation.

Overview of Programs at NMSU

Donna Wagner, dean, HSS, NMSU, gave the committee an overview of the health programs at the university, working through a PowerPoint presentation provided to the committee. She noted that the HSS consists of the School of Nursing, the School of Social Work and the Department of Public Health Sciences. The HSS has 31 tenured or tenure-track faculty members and 70 college faculty members and adjuncts. The School of Nursing has 811 undergraduate students and 114 graduate students. The School of Social Work has 215 undergraduate students and 146 graduate students. The Department of Public Health Sciences has 118 undergraduate students and 84 graduate students. She also discussed various health care-related programs connected to other colleges at NMSU. Dr. Wagner then discussed how research at the HSS focuses on health disparities, including childhood obesity; cancer screening; promotion of healthy eating and physical activity, particularly among Hispanic American families in colonias; strategies to encourage Hispanic men to seek medical attention for health issues; and screening brief intervention and referral training to help primary care providers address alcoholism and substance abuse through early intervention. She also gave an overview of how the HSS contributes to the health care policy conversation in the state and in the nation and how the HSS engages the community. She then discussed the Southern Area Health Education Center and efforts to take evidence-based programming to the colonias. She concluded by noting the high National Council Licensure Examination pass rate — over 90 percent — and mentioned the growing use of telemedicine and that the HSS is looking to develop programs for Parkinson's disease.

Members of the committee asked questions about and discussed the demand and requirements for social work degrees, funding sources for the HSS and telemedicine.

Update on Cancer Research at NMSU

Mary O'Connell, professor, Department of Plant and Environmental Science, NMSU, gave the committee an update on cancer research at the university, working through a PowerPoint presentation provided to the committee. She told the committee about four recent cancer

research award recipients at the university and discussed the partnership that NMSU has forged with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (FHCRC) in Seattle. When the partnership began, NMSU was not a cancer center, but the university was approached by the FHCRC because of NMSU's training of minority students and researchers. She informed the committee that the partnership had been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health National Cancer Institute since 2002 and that the current grant ends in August 2018, but NMSU will reapply for funding for the subsequent five years. She noted that the \$21 million for cancer research, training and outreach has included more than 40 projects and programs and more than 350 trainees, has resulted in more than 100 publications and has allowed for more than 60 additional grants. Professor O'Connell then discussed how the NMSU-FHCRC partnership conducts outreach and research efforts across the cancer care continuum, from prevention to screening to diagnosis to treatment to palliative care and recovery. She discussed various research efforts, especially those that involve collaboration across disciplines. She then discussed various cancer prevention and education programs sponsored through the university, including cancer 101 courses held at public libraries, cancer health education events, a colorectal cancer knowledge assessment survey and an inflatable walk-through colon that is brought to public events. She noted that the NMSU-FHCRC partnership has resulted in outreach to more than 8,000 people in the New Mexico region and how 84 percent of the partnership's graduate student interns have completed their degrees and 84 percent work in the area of health disparities.

Public Comment

Annette Enriquez, cancer advocate for Colleges Against Cancer at NMSU, and Lacey Daniell, a staff member with the American Cancer Society College Action Network, thanked the committee for coming to NMSU and for its work on the issues surrounding tobacco use.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the TSROC adjourned at 3:25 p.m.